

Working in partnership



# Islington Integrated Gangs Team



## **The Islington Integrated Gangs Team (IGT) works with 10-24 year olds who are at high risk of involvement in gang-related criminality or violence, or who have been victims of serious youth violence.**

The IGT is comprised of staff from the police, the council (children's services, youth offending service and community safety), probation, Job Centre Plus, the NHS, and voluntary and community sector organisations such as Victim Support and Abianda.

The team is working to improve outcomes for offenders, victims and the whole community. Our objectives are to:

- reduce violence committed by, and against, offenders
- reduce the seriousness of offences, and the re-offending rate of individuals connected to gangs
- reduce the number of people who are victims of gang-related violence
- provide victims of violent crime connected to gang activity with the appropriate support
- improve safeguarding for children and vulnerable adults at risk of gang related harm

### **The IGT approach**

The co-location of staff means that it is easier to co-ordinate work across a range of organisations and helps to ensure that joint resources are used effectively. The IGT core offer is:

- individual support which challenges and reduces offending behaviours and provides options for leaving gangs
- help with accessing education, employment, training and other positive opportunities or activities
- intensive support in areas such as housing, mental health and substance misuse
- work with young women affected by gangs to help them navigate risk and make positive changes in their lives
- enforcement activity where gang members continue to offend and pose a risk to themselves and others

The prevention offer includes:

- targeted 1-2-1 or group work sessions with those on the cusp of serious gang violence and/or siblings of violent gang nominals
- consultation support in relation to young people assessed as being on the cusp of serious gang violence
- referral to other support agencies and services

The IGT also provides support for victims and families of victims affected by gang-related violence and safeguards young people, vulnerable adults and families affected by gangs.

### Referral criteria

An individual must be an Islington resident and aged 10-24 years at the time of referral to the IGT.

They must also meet one of the following criteria:

- an offending history that involves serious youth violence and is linked to group or gang criminality
- a victim of serious youth violence, sexual violence or exploitation because they are associated or affiliated with a gang
- in a relationship with someone who is involved in a gang
- a prevention case where serious gang violence is indicated by professional assessment
- on the *Metropolitan Police Service Gangs Matrix* or identified as *Category 3 risk* under the Islington Gang Safeguarding protocol for young people under 18 which can be found on the website of the Islington Safeguarding Children Board:  
[www.islingtonscb.org.uk](http://www.islingtonscb.org.uk)

### Referral process

If you have concerns about a young person at risk of joining a gang please complete the 'Islington Childrens Services: Request for Service' form and email this securely to:

**[CSCT@islington.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:CSCT@islington.gcsx.gov.uk)**

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You can also contact the Childrens Services Contact team to discuss the case further on **0207 527 7400** Mon to Fri 9am-5pm

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For emergency enquires out of hours call **0207 527 0992**



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